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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 34 | Min 19 | Humidity 40% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 55,776 | Nifty 16,663 | Gold 51,642 | Silver 68,327 | Dollar 76.44 | Euro 83.92 | GBP 99.93

TOWER POWER

PAGE 2

DESOLATION OF SMOG

PAGE 3

On parts of Bengaluru where hazardous substances exist at levels and conditions that pose existing or imminent threat to health and environment

THE TOXICITY

5 contaminated sites identified in CPCB report

| Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaluru has five contaminated sites, a Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report has said.

In the report released a few months ago, CPCB identified five locations 'contaminated' by toxic and hazardous substances. Besides, 12 sites were 'probable contaminated sites', where further investigation is recommended in the report.

The aforementioned five contaminated sites are Goripalya near Mysore Road, Mangammanapalya near Hosur Road, Peenya Industrial area, Mavallipura dumpsite near Yelahanka and Begur Lake.

The probable contaminated spots mentioned in the CPCB report include waterbodies: Lalbagh Lake, Madiwala Lake, Hebbal Lake, Bellandur Lake, Kengeri Tank, Arekere Lake and Agara Lake.

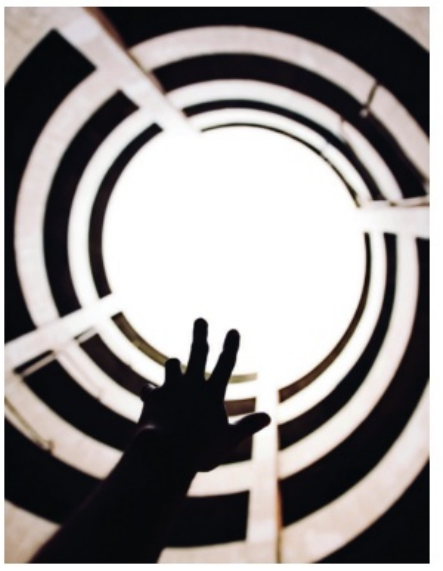
The polluted sites often housed production areas, landfills, dumps, waste storage and treatment areas, mine tailings, spill sites, chemical waste handling facilities and storage sites located in various parts of the city.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

"This number is a gross underestimation by CPCB. Many lakes in the city are fed with industrial effluents regularly. All industries are discharging chemicals into the waterbodies. The fact that CPCB could find only five contaminated and 12 probable contaminated sites surprised me. — Dr TV Ramachandra, IISc

Back to Black

Karnataka stands first in suicides due to unemployment



| Sridhar.Vivan
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Many lost jobs in Karnataka during the coronavirus pandemic. This in turn resulted in an increase in suicides. According to the latest statistics, suicides have increased due to unemployment, and sadly, Karnataka is leading the trend in the country.

In 2020, estimates said 3,548 people had died by suicide in the country. Out of them, 720 were from Karnataka. Maharashtra came second with 625 individuals losing their lives to suicide.

Suicides related to unemployment have been consistently increasing in Karnataka. In the last five years, 2,336 people died by suicide including 224 people in 2016, 375 in 2017, 464 in 2018 and 553 in 2019.

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha, Union minister of state for labour and employment Rameshwar Teli said the data was categorised as per National Crime

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Deluxe Thali

Indiranagar SOCIAL is all set to host Deluxe Thali, a homegrown marketplace showcasing the best homegrown talents from the city including handpoke tattoo, piercings, candle making workshop, music and more. Some of the hottest upcoming brands and artists will be there to spoil you silly. Catch the candle geniuses 'HOUSE OF DRIP' with an extensive candle-making workshop from 1 to 4 pm. For that happy little dance to end the day, there's a live performance lined up - DANCE OK PLEASE featuring MADBOY, KNIQUE, and PUNCH M.

Where: Indiranagar SOCIAL
When: 19th March, 1 to 8 pm
Entry: Free, insider.in

02 Of music & colour

Music and colour have the power to influence a person at multiple levels, in a powerful and memorable sense. At the start of spring, Holi, the festival of colours is celebrated amid serenity, liveliness, and with music. As a part of this, Ekatvam is bringing colour and music together at the Ekatvam Holi Music Fest 2022 at Bangalore Gayana Samaja. Twelve concerts from upcoming and renowned artists will enthral you with their genius.

Where: Bangalore Gayana Samaja, Basavanagudi,
When: Mar 18 – 20, multiple slots
Contact: 9986902524
Tickets: Rs 100 upwards, bookmyshow.com

03 ROFL

The Indian Institute of Cartoonists is organising 'JUST LIKE THAT', an exhibition of cartoons by Dr Sudeendra Koushik. an innovator, engineer and a technologist. As a TEDx speaker, Koushik speaks globally on innovation and sees the funny side of things. With more than two dozen patents, he never misses a chance to bring a smile on people's faces, at least on some people.

Where: Indian Cartoon Gallery, Midford Garden
When: Till March 26, 10am – 6pm (except Sundays)

TOWER POWER

Paper by Bengaluru and USA professors finds that cold storage chains for vaccines can be sustained using excess power from cellphone towers

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A science journal authored by a renowned Bengaluru-based professor of biotechnology and his counterpart in the United States has thrown light on how excess power from cellphone towers could be used to run cold storage chains for Covid-19 and other vaccines in the country.

Professor C Kameswara Rao from the Foundation for Biotechnology Awareness and Education, Bengaluru, along with Harvey Rubin, with the Department of Medicine, Microbiology and Computer Science, University of Pennsylvania, have both co-authored this paper that was published in Current Science journal a couple of days ago.

According to the article, excess power from mobile towers could be harnessed to run cold storage chain of vaccines in off-grid areas, especially in the rural pockets of the country where there are frequent power outages especially during summer.

According to the journal, vaccines require to be maintained in a cold chain that requires continuous and uninterrupted power supply. While even cities and large townships in the country suffer from frequent power outages, there are a large number of villages with poor and agrarian communities still reeling underneath without electric power as their areas are out of the grid, excerpts from the journal point out.

As there are cellphone towers everywhere in the country now, including off-grid areas, excess power could be harnessed from these mobile towers to run the cold chain of vaccines storage. Rao and Rubin states that this is being done in some African countries and Myanmar.

A cold storage unit (above) used to keep Covid vaccines

> **"In order to maintain efficacy of the vaccines, they must be stored at low temperatures from the time of manufacture till they are administered**

In order to maintain the purity and efficacy of the vaccines, they must be maintained at low temperatures from the time of manufacture until the time they are administered. The temperature range is usually 2 to 8 degree centigrade, but varies from one vaccine to another.

For example, the Covid-19 vaccine from Pfizer and Biontech requires it to be maintained at minus 70 degree centigrade while that of Moderna at minus 20 degree centigrade. "This essential temperature-controlled supply chain is called the cold chain," stated excerpts from the journal.

Annually, millions of doses of vaccines and essential medicines become ineffective and unusable because of the failure of the cold chain.

Nowadays, mobile towers are found everywhere and cellphone companies generally use grid power in urban and large townships, but when it comes to rural and other areas, to prevent signal failure from power outages, they also maintain auxiliary power-generation equipment near the towers such as solar power generators, wind power generators, electro-chemical fuel cells or internal combustion engines driven by oil fuel or gas. In order to prevent signal weakening or failure, it is ensured that the tower sites have excess power to sustain communication for several days in case of grid and/or auxiliary power failure or other problems.

Hence, as mobile phone coverage blankets the globe and is ever expanding, drawing energy from telecommunications towers to sustain the rural cold chains would continue to be feasible in the future as well, it stated.

The cold chain is not only for the storage of Covid-19 vaccines, but for other vaccines against bacterial diseases such as diphtheria, tetanus, cholera, typhoid, tuberculosis, etc. Vaccines have also been effective for viral infections, including hepatitis-B, measles, polio, rotavirus, rubella and smallpox. Many of these vaccines are included in the child immunization programmes by Government of India and administered via oral, nasal, or intramuscular routes, the journal stated.

Kids aged 12-14 get CorBEvax-ready

With the Centre giving the green signal for Covid vaccines for those aged between 12-14, around 2 million eligible beneficiaries are set to get their shots, starting Wednesday.

Children born on March 15, 2010 and before will be eligible for vaccination and will be administered CorBEvax vaccines manufactured by the Hyderabad-based pharma company Biological E Limited.

"Each beneficiary will be administered two doses of CorBEvax vaccine. The duration is similar to that of Covaxin, and the second dose of CorBEvax will also be given after 28 days," said an official.

Initially, vaccines will be administered in health facilities, and later, schools will be the vaccination centres and management will provide support staff and space for vaccination. In case the eligible students miss their vaccinations in schools, they will be directed to nearby health centres.

Officials prepare to administer the doses to kids starting Wednesday

Vaccination for children with comorbidities will be carried out in health facility under the supervision of a medical officer. The schools which are conducting online classes can fix a day for vaccination and children have to be called that day to avail of the dose.

A senior doctor from a private facility said that ever since Covid cases dropped in the state, the demand for vaccines has also fallen. "Many are choosing not to take their doses at private facilities as beneficiaries prefer to take them at government facilities where it is offered for free."

The doctor added that the demand for jabs had fallen and they were worried over the expiry date. "Even the demand for booster doses is lukewarm. I want to suggest people not to neglect vaccines. Currently, we can see resurgence in Covid cases in a few countries where the vaccine coverage is low. We need to take the required vaccines and prevent the possible next wave." **-Prakash VL**

DOUSE THE FIRE

Residents of Banashankari say the area is engulfed by smoke for 15 days now

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The residents of Banashankari 6th cross are wary of the frequent fires that are set up by the villagers and the shepherds residing in the area. They say that these fires are posing major risks to their health and to the vehicles parked on the roads.

The residents say that their area has been covered with smoke since the last 15 days and it is becoming extremely difficult to reside. They say that the smoke is causing a number of health hazards as well.

A resident of the area who requested to be anonymous said, "Villagers from surrounding areas usually set the dry leaves and branches on fire, probably to keep the snakes away or to get rid of dry waste. However, these fires are becoming a matter of concern. We keep our cars and LPG gas cylinders outside. If the fire reaches them, there will be a bad disaster."

Another resident of the area said, "The fire causes too much smoke. It is becoming very difficult to reside in the area. Whenever I go out, my eyes become red because of the smoke. I cannot even keep the windows of my house open because the smoke will enter through them. Going out has become a tiresome task."

Vipul K, a resident, said, "Just two days ago, I saw that a house in our neighborhood was completely surrounded by fire. I have also seen patches of road become black because of the fire. Such incidents are extremely risky. It poses a huge threat to the house as well as to the residents. The worst thing is that there is no one that we can approach and request to put an end to such problems."

"Villagers from surrounding areas usually set the dry leaves and branches on fire, probably to keep the snakes away or to get rid of dry waste -- Resident

The residents have tried complaining to the Bangalore Development Authority. However, they have not responded to any of the complaints. When the residents tried approaching the BBMP, officials said that the area does not come under their jurisdiction. "Because of the lack of communication between the authorities, it is us (residents) who are suffering," said a resident.

Beehive removal turns fatal

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A 54-year-old wildlife rescue volunteer attached to the BBMP Forest Cell fell to his death after he was stung by a swarm of bees He was atop of a tree at an IAS officer's house, trying to remove the large bee-hive, behind the Golf Course in High Grounds, Central Bengaluru last week.

The deceased has been identified as Venkatesh John, a resident of Gottigere and a coconut vendor on Bannerghatta Road. He had enrolled with the BBMP's Forest Cell as a volunteer for rescuing wildlife too, his colleague Rohit, another wildlife rescuer from JP Nagar told Bangalore Mirror.

According to John's family and a close friend, Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) Govindaraju had informed him (John) about a beehive that needed to be removed at a bureaucrat's house behind the Golf Course. On March 6, he went to remove it.

According to sources, John was allegedly "lured" by the chief of BBMP Forest Cell, one Prasanna Kumar who promised John a monthly salary in the presence of ACF Govindaraj soon after honeycomb removal assignment was done.

However, ACF Govindraj told Bangalore Mirror that he was neither aware of any such beehive assignment nor did he know that John had gone to remove it.

Another source with the BBMP's Forest Cell said that the beehive was at a good height and it was risky to access it without a harness or a protective gear from bee stings. But John scaled up the tree in the evening without any protective gear and a swarm of bees stung him.

Unable to bear with the pain, he fell to the ground. He was soon rushed to a nearby private hospital, where he was declared dead. John's friend Rohit who reached the hospital was told by the doctors that he had suffered multiple bee stings, and sustained multiple fractures from the fall which led to his death.

Wildlife rescuer falls to death after bee attack. The deceased has been identified as Venkatesh John, a resident of Gottigere and a coconut vendor on Bannerghatta Road

The hospital raised a medico-legal case (MLC) and the High Grounds police personnel visited the hospital and took statements from the eyewitnesses.

The cops have taken up a case of unnatural death and are investigating further.

A relative of John alleged that they were asked not to escalate the matter as officials from BBMP visited the spot and promised a government job for one of John's family members. "Ideally, since its a case of accidental death, the cops are supposed to register a case of accidental death due to negligence under IPC section 304-A and book the accused who failed to offer him safety harnesses, protective gear or other precautions, but here the cops have taken up a case of unnatural death," said a former senior wildlife warden.

Fill potholes in 15 days: HC

The Karnataka High Court has given a fortnight's time to BBMP to fix potholes in the central areas of the city. The Court directed the BBMP officials on Tuesday that they have to fill the potholes on war footing and there should be no room for any delay.

Meanwhile, a day after a pothole in MS Palya claimed a youth's life, where the BBMP officials blamed the BWSSB for the issue, the BWSSB officials on Tuesday said that BBMP should be blamed instead. "The BWSSB has given a contract for laying water pipelines and sewer lines to 110 villages. Once the pipeline laying was completed, it was the duty of BBMP to fix the roads," an official statement from BWSSB stated. **BMB**

B'luru-Thailand flights resume

Bengalureans can now fly to Thailand. IndiGo resumed flights between India and Thailand from Tuesday onwards after a span of two years, a statement said. Thailand is opening its borders nearly two years after it restricted entry for tourists in March 2020, the airline's statement noted.

The country reopened its border to vaccinated travellers from every country on February 1 this year. The airline said it will operate the Thailand flights under air bubble agreement till March 26 and thereafter as part of its scheduled commercial international operations. "The flights will connect Bangkok with Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Bengaluru and Phuket with Delhi and Mumbai," it stated. **BMB**

Airbnb to open tech hub in B'luru

Online accommodation platform Airbnb on Saturday announced the opening of a new technology hub in Bengaluru to help it serve its "global community".

The Bengaluru technology hub will aim to create local, skilled jobs, with plans for the centre to cater to a few hundred people in the initial phases, followed by an expanded footprint in the future, the company said in a statement.

Airbnb Chief Technology Officer Ari Balogh said the new Bengaluru hub will enable the company to work with "some of the brightest tech talent in India while allowing Airbnb to continue to evolve our technical foundations and build truly exceptional experiences for guests and hosts on the platform." **PTI**

Pretty 'paw'esome innit?

Training programme supported by government of India, organised by Veterinary College, Hebbal, will detect rabies in more efficient and cost-friendly manner

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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Experts said rabies is one of the most neglected and under-reported diseases. There is a shortage of effective rabies surveillance

The Veterinary College, Hebbal, is organising a national-level training programme on sampling methodology to diagnose rabies in animals. The four-day hands-on programme on 'Collection of Brain Sample and Diagnosis of Rabies in Animals' will begin on March 16 and will train participants in a cost-effective and user-friendly sampling technique.

"It is a hands-on training programme on how to collect brain samples to diagnose rabies in animals. The sampling technique that will be demonstrated in the programme has been developed by the OIE Reference Laboratory for Rabies of the Veterinary College and it is a quick and cost-effective way to diagnose the virus," said Dr Srikrishna Isloor, head, OIE Reference Laboratory, Veterinary College, Hebbal.

According to Dr Isloor, currently, some of the approved techniques to detect rabies virus are expensive or are not available commercially. "We have developed a simpler method to collect brain samples from dogs or other animals suspected to have rabies. Conventionally, the sample is collected by breaking the skull open. This procedure is not just complicated but is time-consuming as well. Under the technique developed by us, we make a deep incision at a point where the vertebral column joins the skull. The sample can be collected within 15 minutes from this incision point and sent for testing," said Dr Isloor.

> **The workshop will enhance awareness of participants on the latest developments in rabies diagnostics, surveillance, prevention and control measures**
>
> –Dr Srikrishna Isloor, head, OIE Reference Laboratory, Veterinary College

Experts said rabies is one of the most neglected and under-reported diseases. There is a shortage of effective rabies surveillance, which is primarily due to a lack of knowledge and skills on rabies diagnosis, including sampling methodology. Moreover, as clinical signs of rabies can be similar to other neurological diseases and disorders, it is important to subject all rabies-suspected cases to laboratory diagnosis to confirm the disease and increase surveillance.

"The workshop will enhance vvawareness of the participants on the latest developments in rabies diagnostics, surveillance, prevention and control measures. It will also help them increase surveillance capacities on ground, thereby enhancing disease detection, reporting and control activities. We have hand-picked 12 professors and faculties working in veterinary colleges in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana for the workshop," added Dr Isloor.

The programme is supported by National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

Please, Palike; dilly dally no more

Delay in restoration of Goodshed Road is troubling residents, motorists, shop owners

Although the developmental projects on a protion of Goodshed Road are yet to be completed, BBMP has begun white topping the other portion of the road. The incomplete portion of the road, which has been blocked for traffic, has seen only 50 per cent progress in the works. Meanwhile, the delay in the completion of the projects is causing motorists, residents and shop owners to worry.

Cottonpet Main road and Goodshed Road are two key roads connecting Majestic to KR Market and other localities. However, the upgradation of these roads has taken longer than expected.

The traffic on Cottonpet Road was stalled for a few years for white topping and now it is open to traffic. However, Goodshed Road has been shut for the last six months for upgradation and still there is no sign of the completion of the works nearing.

BBMP officials said the projects require another one and a half months. But previously, officials had claimed the work would be completed in three months. When the officials had said the work on the 1.3 km stretch will be completed within 90 days, they had barred vehicles from using the road August 21 onwards.

The work on Goodshed Road is in progress

The white topping work from Mysuru Road's Balagangadharanatha Bridge's downward ramp to the signal near Shanthala Silks and the work from Belimutt Road to the signal will start this week.

> **Residents worry about health issues while shop owners lose customers due to dust and debris piling along the road**

There are many works on this road that are pending. The debris along the Railway track compound must be removed and the laying of UGD pipelines and utility ductwork must be started. There are new manholes, sanitary pipes being laid. BBMP officials said with quality concrete, the works on the footpath will be completed within 45 days.

Due to the delay in the works, residents are facing health issues thanks to the debris piling up on both sides of the road. Residents are also unable to use the road to walk safely. Shop owners along and near the road are also facing losses due to the delay. Citizens urged BBMP must finish the projects soon.

—Prakash VL

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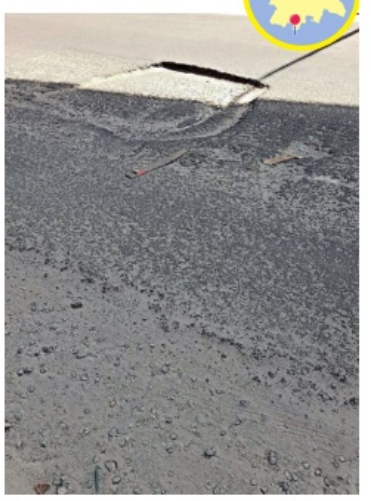
Restoration needed
Shivajinagar

This road is damaged and needs restoration. Shop owners will be affected by this. The authorities concerned must fix it soon.

Fix it
Mysuru Road



This road is very damaged. It is a busy road and could become worse unless fixed immediately.

Repair this
Silk Board

This divider near Central Silk Board must be repaired quickly. Will the authorities concerned fix it?

Broken ways

Traffic diverted following construction work on Netaji Road towards Tannery road in Bengaluru on Tuesday

78% of State's covid cases from Bengaluru alone

With Covid cases decreasing across the State, 78 per cent of the total caseload of the State is now being reported in Bengaluru alone.

On Tuesday, Karnataka had 129 Covid cases out of which 101 were from Bengaluru alone.

In fact, 27 districts in the State had zero covid-19 cases and 28 districts (barring Bengaluru and Mysuru) had no covid death at all (total Covid deaths in Karnataka were two).

Among the deceased, a 73-year old man from Bengaluru, who was admitted to hospital for influenza-like illness complaint, had died after staying in hospital for 12 days while 52-year old Mysuru man with ILI complaint breathed his last after four days in hospital.

The test positivity rate for the State was 0.49 per cent and case fatality rate was 1.55 per cent.

Among the wards in the city, Bellandur which used to report 500 plus cases a day is now reporting seven cases a day followed by Doddanekkundi (five), Hagadur and HSR layout (four each), Varthur, Hoodi, Koramangala and Begur (two each) while Vignanan Nagar (one).

The rest of the wards in the city limits had no covid case at all.

40 healthcare facilities get NQAS certification

This is a recognition for the high standards maintained by the health institutions in Karnataka's public health system

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The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) has given National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) certification to 40 health facilities in Karnataka for maintaining high standard quality at the institutions.

The State has seen a 2.6 times increase in the NQAS certification between 2021-2022. Until 2021, only 11 health facilities had got the NQAS certification, however between 2021-2022, over 40 facilities have got the certification.

Over eight district hospitals, 23 primary health centres (PHCs), seven urban primary health centres (UPHCs) and two community health centres have got the accreditation in the state.

The NQAS certification is a recognition for the high standards maintained by the hospitals in the state's public health system.

Recently, the PHCs in Madlur, KRS, Srirangapatna, Mandya, Tubinakere and UPHC Ramanagar received the quality certification. The facilities had undergone virtual assessments by empanelled external by assessors.

NQAS are currently available for district hospitals, CHCs, PHCs and Urban PHCs. Standards are primarily meant for providers to assess their own quality for improvement through predefined standards and to bring up their facilities for certification.

> **The Karnataka health department is stepping up towards quality improvement**
>
> –Randeep D, health dept

The National Quality Assurance Standards are broadly arranged under eight areas of concern – Service Provision, Patient Rights, Inputs, Support Services, Clinical Care, Infection Control, Quality Management and Outcome. These standards are ISQUA accredited and meets global benchmarks in terms of comprehensiveness, objectivity, evidence and rigour of development.

The state carries out the nomination process of some of the health centres by considering the criteria of quality service, infection control, maintenance of documents and others, after which it goes under the assessment.

With over 40 of the health facilities marked with NQAS, it has instilled confidence in the public on the services provided in government hospitals. "The Department of Health and Family Welfare in Karnataka is stepping up quality improvement of its Healthcare Facilities. Total 40 facilities of the state are now NQAS certified. I congratulate all the PHC teams for taking up the assessment and acquiring the certification," said HFW commissioner Randeep D.

PHCs have been instrumental in vaccine administration

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I, Chandra Sekaran Moovankara S/o. Ramankutti, R/o. #39, 5th Crs, DS Max Apts, Muneshwara L/o, Kudlu Gate, Blr-68, have changed my name to Chandrashekharan Nair Moovankara vide affidavit dt: 15/03/22 before Notary K.Muralidharan, B'lr.

I, ARCHANA MISTRI W/o Masibur Molla Aged about 28 Years R/at Chakadar Pada, Uttar Pada Village, PS Falta, Hasimnagar Primary School, Hasimnagar, South 24 Pargaas, West Bengal-743513 have changed my name to SAHANARA BIBI vide affidavit dated: 20/9/2021 Before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar Bangalore.

I N G Vishak S/O, Vidya Subramaniam R/o No 101, Building No 2, 5th Main Mathikere, Bengaluru- 560054 Permanent Address 33/13 M G Road Kalua Badamtalla, P.o. Joka Kolkata-700104 have changed my name to Vishak Chandramaouli for all purposes vide affidavit 1376 dater 14-12-2021 at kolkata

I Senthil Kumar Sellapillai R/o G5, Block-A, SLS Sunflower, Syno: 127/1, Boganahalli, Bengaluru-560103 have changed my minor daughter's name from Darsha Shravanthi to Darsha Shravanthi Senthil permanently by affidavit dated 14/03/2022 sworn before notary Harisha.G, Bengalore.

I Rajiv Raj Sunder Raj S/o, Sunder Raj.D R/o Flat 1005, Pavan Enclave Apartments, 16th B Main, 2nd Stage Hal, bengaluru 560008 have changed my name to Rajiv Raj for all purposes.

I, MANSI BIST R/a. at # E-5, Brindavan Apts., Adugodi, Bangalore-30. have changed my name to MANSI SAHAY vide affidavit dated 15.03.2022 before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar .

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Hijab is not an essential practice of Islam: HC

Three-judge bench upholds ban on hijabs in classrooms; order receives mixed responses from citizens

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Upholding the ban on hijabs in classrooms, Karnataka High Court on Tuesday said the headscarf is not a part of the essential religious practice in Islamic faith. The prescription of school uniform is only a reasonable restriction, constitutionally permissible which the students cannot object to, a three-judge bench headed by Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi further noted.

The other two judges were Justice Krishna S Dixit and Justice J M Khazi. The bench also maintained that the government has power to issue the impugned order dated February 5, 2022.

By the said order, the Karnataka government had banned wearing clothes which disturb equality, integrity and public order in schools and colleges, which the Muslim girls had challenged in the High Court.

The bench also rejected the plea to initiate a disciplinary inquiry against the college, its principal and a teacher. "In the above circumstances, all these writ petitions being devoid of merits are liable to be and accordingly are being dismissed," the bench said in its order.

Background

On January 1, six girl students of a college in Udupi attended a press conference held by the Campus Front of India (CFI) in the coastal town protesting against the college authorities denying them entry into the classroom wearing hijab. This erupted into a major row after some Hindu students turned up in saffron shawls, with the issue spreading to other areas.

Security deployed in front of the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday

Welcome verdict: NCW

National Commission for Women chairperson Rekha Sharma on Tuesday welcomed the decision, saying that students must follow the dress code prescribed inside an educational institution by the administration.

"Girls and women have the right to wear anything of their choice and nothing should come in the way of their freedom to choose but inside an educational institution, students must follow the dress code prescribed by the administration," the NCW chairperson said.

Focus on studies: CM

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday urged the students to focus on education, saying 'it is a question of fate and education of our children'. Bommai said that education was more important than anything else.

Probe those stoking issue

A special bench directed that the government complete its investigation into the 'unseen hands' that had stoked the hijab issue. The 129-page verdict of the bench comprising of Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, Justice Krishna S Dixit and Justice Jaibunnisa Mohiyuddin Khaji quoted, "We are dismayed how the issue has blown out of proportion by the powers that be."

'Verdict unconstitutional'

The Udupi Muslim girls whose petitions seeking permission to wear Hijab inside the classrooms were dismissed by the Karnataka High Court said they will not go to college without the hijab and would fight the case legally till they get justice. They also claimed the verdict was unconstitutional.

"We will not go to college without hijab and try all legal ways," a girl said in a press conference in Udupi.

The Campus Front of India (CFI) President Ataulla Punjalakatte on Friday also was disappointed with the verdict. Punjalakatte said, "We will continue to support the six female students who are fighting for the right of hijab." Their parents must take a decision on this, he added. After the hijab row came to the fore, the CFI had conducted a survey in 21 districts of the state. As many as 11,000 girls have been excluded from education, the CFI leader stated.

Opposition wants protection of students

The Karnataka Congress MP DK Suresh held the government responsible for providing protection to the female students."Islamic practice is accepted by the Constitution; don't know how the Court has given this verdict. Education is also very important," Suresh said.

(with inputs from agencies)

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farnazfever

Universities discouraged students from leaving Ukraine: Jaishankar

Conflicting advice proves barrier; 22,500 Indians returned safely, says Minister

#NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday said Indian students were positively discouraged by universities in Ukraine from leaving.

In his statement on the situation in the war-torn country, he said that 22,500 Indian citizens have returned safely from Ukraine.

"Despite our efforts, however, a large majority of students elected to continue staying in Ukraine. We must understand the predicament in this regard. There was natural reluctance to leave the educational institutions and affect the studies. Some universities actively discourage and showed reluctance to offer online courses. Many of them received conflicting advice regarding safety," Jaishankar said.

He said that in the period leading to February 24, the political signals were confusing as well.

"Public urgings not to be taken by alarmism and reports of force withdrawal created a confusing picture. The net result was that about 18000 Indian nationals were caught in the midst of conflict when it started," Jaishankar said.

The minister said that students did what they thought is right under the circumstance.

He said that India prepared in advance of the actual conflict situation.

He said the Indian embassy in Ukraine had started registration drive for India nationals in January and as a result 20,000 Indian nationals registered with Indian embassy.

The minister said that 4,000 students left Ukraine through direct and indirect flights.

He said that India also rescued 147 foreign nationals of 18 countries including Nepal and Bangladesh from Ukraine.

The minister said that the conflict between Ukraine and Russia has major economic implications and same can be seen in the rising prices of energy and commodities.

"The Ukraine conflict has major economic implications. Its impact on energy and commodity prices is already visible. The disruption of global supply chain is expected to be significant. India has substantial dealing with both Russia and Ukraine," Jaishankar said. **–PTI**

NATION

Students, who were stuck in Ukraine being greeted by relatives, upon their arrival at Srinagar Airport, on Saturday

'Efforts on to bring back mortal remains of K'taka boy'

The Indian Embassy in Ukraine is diligently pursuing the repatriation of mortal remains of Naveen Shekarappa Gyanagoudar, a final year medical student of Kharkiv Medical University, who succumbed to injuries received when he had gone to fetch groceries from a shop, External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar said on Tuesday.

"We deeply mourn his untimely demise. Our Embassy in Ukraine is diligently pursuing the repatriation of his mortal remains to India," Jaishankar said in a statement in both Houses of Parliament on the 'Situation in Ukraine'.

Naveen Gyanagoudar was a resident of Haveri. The minister also mentioned the assistance provided to another Indian national Harjot Singh, who suffered bullet injuries on his way out from Kyiv. **– ANI**

12 sites 'probably toxic'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to the report, contaminated sites are delineated areas where constituents and characteristics of the human-generated toxic and hazardous substances, exist at levels and conditions that pose existing or imminent threats to human health or the environment.

Experts said that dumping or spillage of hazardous wastes and chemicals adversely impacts the surrounding environment, particularly soil, surface water and groundwater, posing a threat to people in and around the impact zone. Moreover, as they get exposed to toxic substances, various health and environmental problems are bound to manifest over time.

"It is a serious concern. Harmful chemicals from these sites can enter our food chain and cause irreparable damage. We have witnessed the impact of harmful chemicals from Varthur and Bellandur lakes. Farmers around these waterbodies raised vegetables and crops using contaminated lake water. When the food items were analysed, high levels of heavy metals were detected. As a result, many in that region are already suffering from kidney-related ailments. Harmful chemicals can also easily seep into groundwater, contaminating the water table," said Dr TV Ramachandra of Centre for Ecological Sciences at the Indian Institute of Science.

CPCB, in its report, also declared that Karnataka overall has six 'contaminated' sites and 19 'probable contaminated sites'. It also recommended that these sites need to be investigated in detail and remediation activity should be carried out to reduce human health risks and environmental impacts.

The board said remediation of contaminated sites can be achieved by cleaning of contaminated media, which in these cases are soil, groundwater, surface water and lakebed sediments.

Environmentalists are of the view that it is the lackadaisical approach of regulatory authorities in the implementation of rules and regulations in relation to waste disposal and management, which leads to such dangerous outcomes.

"Over 40% of the city population is dependent on groundwater. We are already witnessing a high number of people suffering from diseases such as cancer. Despite all legal remedies in place, implementation by the regulatory authorities has been subpar. We are allowing industries to pollute our resources in the name of development. The pollution control board should enforce the 'polluters pay' principle in true spirit," said environmentalist Dr AN Yellappa Reddy.

KSPCB disagrees

While the CPCB's investigation report mentions the six 'contaminated sites' and 19 'probable contaminated sites' in the state, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) seemed to hold a different point of view. KSPCB sources said site assessment studies of all the 25 sites have been completed as per CPCB's reference document on 'Identification, Inspection and Assessment of Contaminated Sites'. The results indicate that only one out of the 25 sites is contaminated.

"We have requested the CPCB to delist the rest of the 24 sites. Based on the SOP given by CPCB, we conducted studies on all 25 sites with the help of the Environmental Management and Policy Research Institute (EMPRI). The subsequent investigative report submitted by EMPRI said just one site near Yelahanka is contaminated, and remediation of this site is in progress. In other sites identified by the CPCB, the land use has changed. CPCB is yet to take the final call on this," said a KSPCB official.

However, researchers and scientists who have been working on the city's waterbodies for years, begged to differ. According to Dr Ramachandra, the majority of the waterbodies in Bengaluru are contaminated.

"Many lakes in the city are fed with industrial effluents regularly. All industries are discharging chemicals into the waterbodies. The fact that CPCB could find only five contaminated and 12 probable contaminated sites surprised me. According to a study done by us, most of the lakes in the city are contaminated and pose health-related risks to those living in the vicinity and using the polluted water. This number was already grossly underestimated by the CPCB," said Dr Ramachandra.

At the moment, the report submitted by the KSPCB on the 25 sites is with the CPCB, under review.

720 died by suicide in 2020

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Records Bureau (NCRB): "To address the burden of mental disorders, the government is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) and is supporting implementation of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) under NMHP in 692 districts of the country. The programme aims to provide suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counselling in schools and colleges; mental health services including prevention, promotion and long-term continuing care at different levels of district healthcare delivery system and promote community awareness and participation in the delivery of mental healthcare services."

Commenting on this, Dr Shradha Shejekar, consultant psychiatrist at Aster RV Hospital said that the trend was on the rise due to low frustration tolerance, lack of family support, loneliness, busy lives, inflation, substance abuse and high expectations from self and by society due to increasing standards.

"I have few patients who have adjustment disorder, depression, substance addiction and marital conflicts who are on medication and counselling," she said.

Dr Satish Ramaiah, consultant neuropsychiatrist and sleep disorder specialist at People Tree Maarga, concurred. "We see quite a lot of people in both categories, given the situation of losing jobs and unemployment. The trend can be either impulsive or planned attempts. Impulsive attempts can be due to any major stress, personality factors and dysfunctional coping, whereas planned attempts are driven by gradual worsening of mood leading to negative rumination like hopelessness and worthlessness. Unlike impulsive attempts, in this scenario, people are likely to initially experience suicidal ideas, then specific thoughts, intent, planning (sometimes with obvious cues) and eventually leading to attempts and completions. Hence, there is a big window of opportunity here to identify early on and help," he noted.

Dr Shejekar further said depending on the severity medications are started. "We ask them to stop substance use. We encourage them to have short-term and long-term goals; to start slow but steady and to not aim for the stars right from the beginning. This keeps anxiety in check. Competition is healthy when done in a similar pool of people; one cannot compete with a billionaire just while starting a business/job. Of course, one can dream and work on it. We need to note that instant success is not real and definitely not long lasting. Focus on good sleep and diet. Discuss your difficulties with friends and seniors. Preferably have a mentor to guide you and aid you with resources. Utilise apps for networking well in this context," she said.

Dr Ramaiah noted it was time to identify the issue by noticing changes in mood, emotions, energy, behaviour, sleep, appetite, general functioning, etc — "careful listening, talking in empathetic and non-judgemental ways and supporting individuals to seek professional help are the initial steps."

HEALTH TIP: Fiber present in dal or lentil can help to prevent the deposition of bad cholesterol and promote good heart health

Raisins are a superfood that helps lower blood pressure, cleans the respiratory system, strengthens bones and boosts metabolism

Mask 'em well

Rejuvenate your hair and skin with one-ingredient masks

Ria Bhatia
mybangaloremirror
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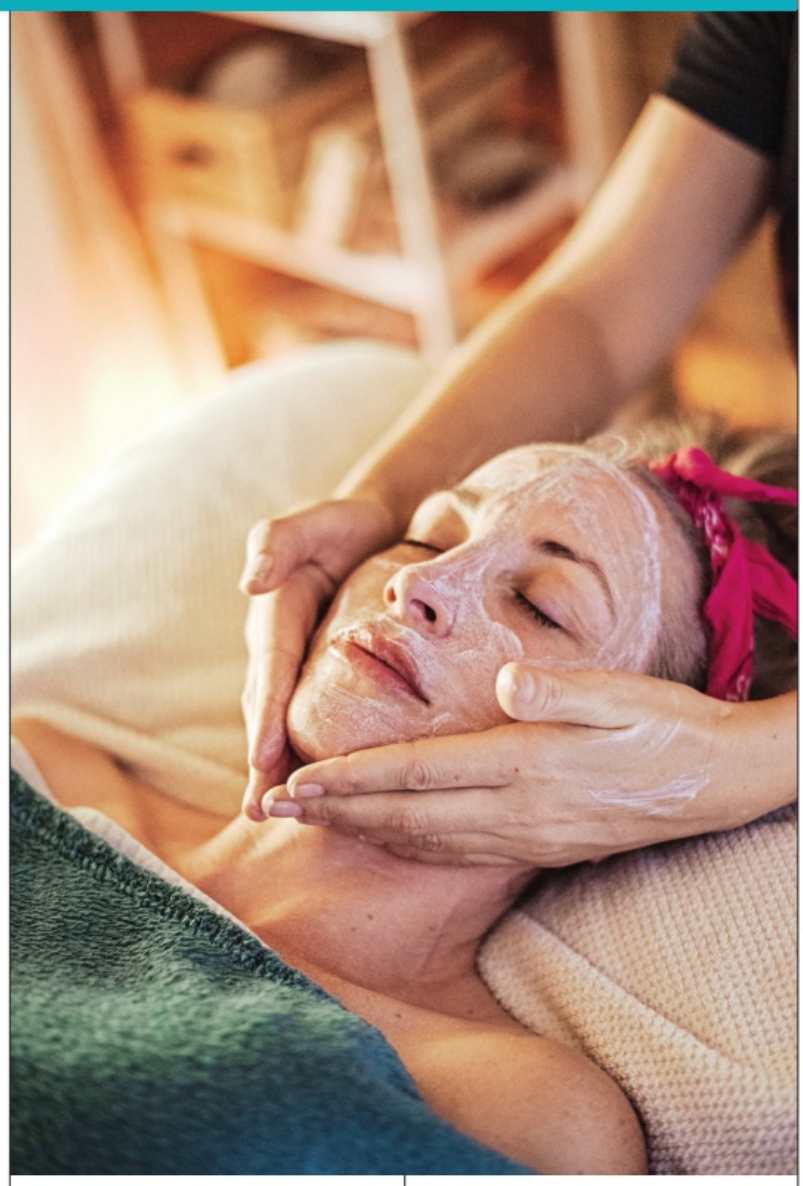
As we approach the weekend every Friday, our subconscious automatically turns on the self-care mode – and we begin to mentally curate a list of all the amazing things we'd like to do across the two days to help us take a pause, reset and revive.

For many, beauty – skin and hair care – are the main ways to unwind and practise some self-love. However, preparing end minute handmade quick fixes can be an arduous task, you wouldn't want to indulge in during the days off. But, still too keen on trying out something fresh and homemade for your skin and hair? We hear you!

We suggest, don't underestimate the power of natural superfoods – each is potent and packed with unique benefits. So, for a fuss-free weekend beauty ritual, try these one-ingredient masks that do the job, sans any hassle.

Papaya

What's the easiest way to unlock glowing and smoother skin? Smear some mashed ripe papaya all over your face. The papain enzymes mildly exfoliate the skin, leaving it brighter. Plus, the fruit contains high contents of vitamin A and C that reduce pigmentation and promote new cell generation in the skin.



Yogurt

A powerhouse of lactic acid, proteins and probiotics, yogurt is an ingredient that boosts both – skin and hair health. Chilled yogurt isn't just a coolant for the skin and scalp during summers but also resurfaces the skin and deeply cleanses the scalp. Yogurt also helps soften the locks and tame frizz as well as tighten the pores and reveal supple skin.

Banana

Bananas are a powerful ingredient for hair, that's not a secret. And, ignoring the fully ripened ones lying in your kitchen isn't a wise thing to do at all. Bananas host a rich amount of potassium and silica – two nutrients that strengthen, soften and thicken the hair. To prepare a banana mask, mash some of it (leaving no lumps) and apply liberally all over.

Colloidal oatmeal

Oatmeal is unique for it has both – saponins (a cleansing component) as well as oils. The ingredient is great to exfoliate the skin and brighten up the complexion as it sloughs away dead skin and unclogs pores. It has antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties that help improve the skin's health. All you need to do is pulverise it and add water to form a paste consistency.

Tomato

Dissatisfied with your current pore health? Enter tomatoes – a warehouse of antioxidants (lycopene in particular) that repair the skin, promote collagen production and enhance glow. Acids in tomatoes (think malic acid) also helps tighten the pores and minimise them.

Avocado

Saving the absolute best for last, avocados are true superfoods for the skin and hair. Of course, you'd wanna churn out guacamole out of it all, but save some for your beauty needs. Mashing ripened avocados (a rich source of omega 3 and 6 fatty acids) and applying to the skin can help relieve dryness, fight acne and stimulate collagen production, alleviating fine lines and wrinkles. Applying the same on the hair can make them softer, glossier and stronger, thanks to biotin."

MIRRORLIGHTS

Curing yourself post breakup

The Indian dating scene has seen a rapid cultural evolution over the last decade. However, if a relationship fails to workout, the breakup trauma continues to be one of the major factors giving rise to anxiety, depression and other mental health conditions.

Founder and CEO QuackQuack, Ravi Mittal conducted a user survey on 'Recovering from a breakup', allowing people to open up about their coping mechanisms following a heartbreak.

According to the survey, 61 per cent of users say that breakups are among the worst forms of adult mental trauma.

Overcome the bad phase: The report suggests that although breakups are almost always incredibly difficult to handle, people who have given themselves sufficient time have eventually reportedly felt better. Other ways to recover from a breakup, as per the report, are:

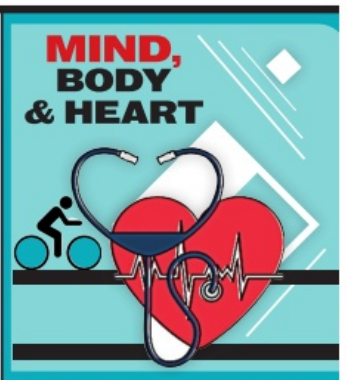
Feel your feelings : Breakups are always hard. They hurt and it can take a long time for you to start feeling better about having your whole world turned upside down. The first step to getting your life back on track is understanding that you're not the only person this has or is happening to and that you're allowed to feel all the pain and complicated emotions you're experiencing.

Talk to close ones: Breaking up with your significant other is one of the most unpleasant experiences one can experience. It's easy to feel lonely and isolated, even though you have friends and family around you. Talking to them, especially your close ones, can be a great way of coping with the emotions you are experiencing.

Take care of yourself: After a breakup, it is important to take care of yourself. The best way to do this is to indulge in self-care. There are several things you can do in order to positively affect your mood and feeling of well-being. Eat well and exercise. This will help you become more confident and destress yourself, so you can have a more positive outlook towards tomorrow.

Don't take emotions take over: By staying in touch with your emotions and making a reasonable plan to deal with them, you'll have a healthier approach to the situation and not let your emotions control your actions! .

—BMB



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'd love some advice on dating. I'm a man in my early 30s and I've struggled to get dates. I don't know why. I'm reasonably good-looking, but maybe I come across as shy or lacking in confidence. I'm confused about the signals I get from women. For example, I was out the other night with a few mates and met a lovely girl who I was drawn to. She's a friend of one of my friends, so we had some people and things in common to talk about. She seemed really interested at the time and we even exchanged numbers. I texted her the next day, asking if she fancied going for a drink and I never heard back - she just ghosted me. What am I doing wrong??

COLEEN SAYS

Well, without seeing what you're like on a date, it's difficult to know what you're doing wrong – if anything. Maybe you're coming across as a little too desperate, or maybe because you're unsure of yourself it gives off the vibe that you're unsure or uncomfortable about the situation. I know it's difficult, but if you don't hear back from a date, try not to overanalyse it.

In some ways it's a numbers game and you have to go on a lot of dates before meeting someone you want to see again. Also, have you thought that you might be doing nothing wrong, but simply haven't met that person; someone you really click with? There's no science to dating and no magic formula, I think it simply comes down to chemistry between two people. When I was online dating, I was about to quit as I'd been on a lot of dates and met some nice guys, but no one special. I had one final swipe and he turned out to be "the one" . So, keep going, keep giving yourself the opportunities to meet women and believe in yourself a bit more.

—Coleen Nolan,
Daily Mirror

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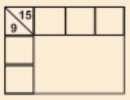
@BangaloreMirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

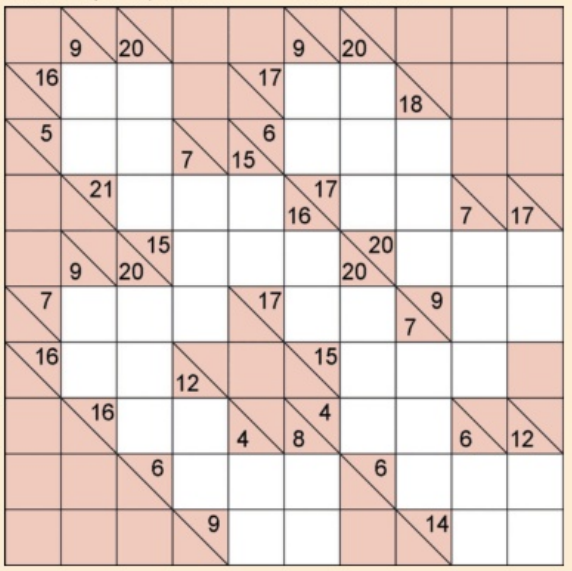
35% of a number is 140. Find 75% of that number.

Kakuro

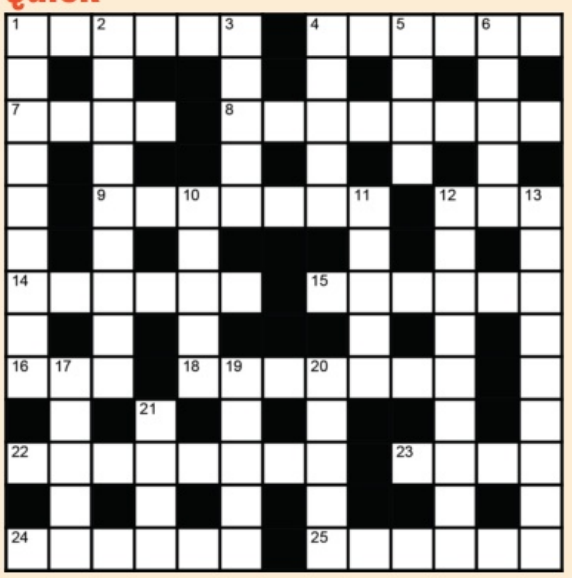
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Cloth; material (6)
4 Self-evident truths (6)
7 Food (informal) (4)
8 Messily, scruffily or slovenly (8)
9 Unsettle (7)
12 Writing fluid (3)
14 Tempting (6)
15 Is he trying his best to keep you entertained? (6)
16 ___ blood : ill-feeling ? (3)
18 Equivocal, slippery (7)
22 Capital of India (3,5)
23 And others, in Latin (2,2)
24 Put aside (6)
25 Irish policemen (6)

DOWN

1 Fincher & Palahniuk's classic (5,4)
2 Slipped or botched (9)
3 Tot up (5)
4 Fragrant oil (5)
5 Our country, as a prefix (4)
6 Italian city (5)
10 Perceive (5)
11 Walt Disney's lovable cartoon deer (5)
12 Examined carefully (9)
13 Restaurant at the Taj Gateway hotel known for it's sea-food (9)
17 Watchful (5)
19 Legally acceptable (5)
20 Taking to court (5)
21 European river (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: H EQUALS O

KEKJCUHFC ODPKI W PDFFKJ, UVS XHUHFC OKXFI MDN NHXKC.

Linemaro

Excuse me, do I need to buy a ticket to look at you?

Mindchow

Life expectancy would grow by leaps and bounds if green vegetables smelled as good as bacon

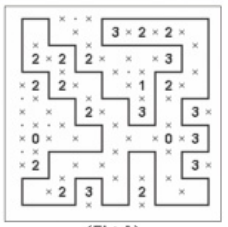
Joke of the day

Q: What do you call a fish with no eyes?
A: Fsh

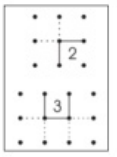
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

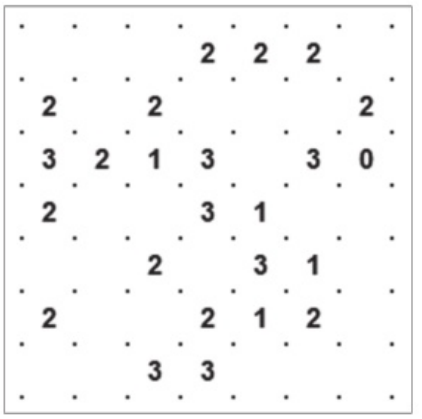


(Fig B) Not Allowed

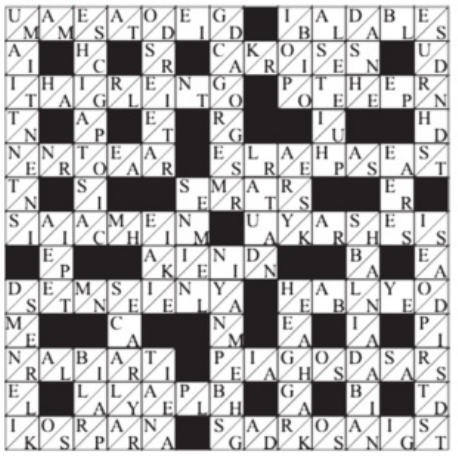
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



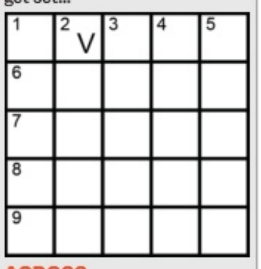
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

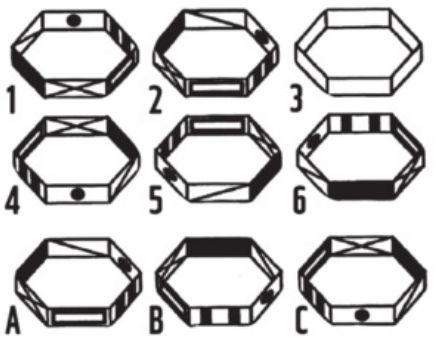
1 At vas; 6 Barer; 7 Edgar; 8 Thy IC; 9 Usual

DOWN

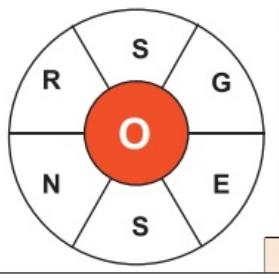
1 A girl; 2 True V; 3 Caaba; 4 Had us; 5 Tyres

Mensapuzzle

Which of the figures at the bottom A, B or C, should take the place of number 3?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; **12** Good; **14** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		5				4		
1	2						3	6
8			1		5			7
3		1	4		9	6		5
4		9	2		3	8		1
7			6		8			4
9	4						8	2
		2				7		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 22

3 4 7 8

Medium = 1

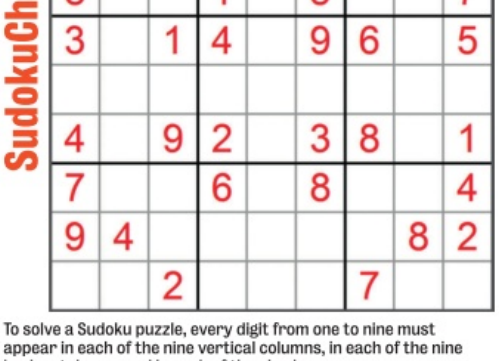
5 6 8 8

Hard = 17

1 5 6 2

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



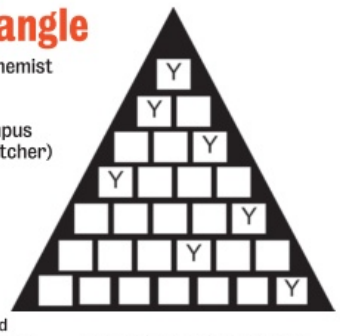
Differences: 1. Arm is shorter. 2. Windowsill is higher. 3. Bow is larger. 4. Paper is longer. 5. Lampshade is different. 6. Sleeve is different.

Riddler

I am three words, Two of them appear the same, Two are pronounced the same. One is the third person use of "capable" or "permit". One means to sleep, but only for a bit. The last word means a group of deer, Perhaps now you can tell me, what words are here?

Alpha triangle

1 Yttrium for the chemist
2 Yes, slang
3 Put down
4 New England campus
5 __ bird (worm catcher)
6 Barrister
7 In a tired way



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

WITH THIS DISGUISE I WAS ABLE TO WALK RIGHT INTO THE FORT
WASN'T THAT DANGEROUS, TANGLEFOOT?
NOT UNTIL AFTER I GOT INTO THE FORT
12-31

Bizarrotrip

Well, without a valid ID, you'll have to lie down on the bar so I can determine your age.
Wayno & Piraro
1-11-22
BIZARRO.COM
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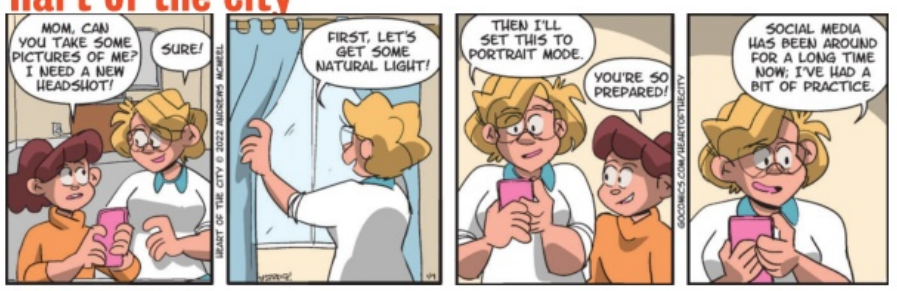
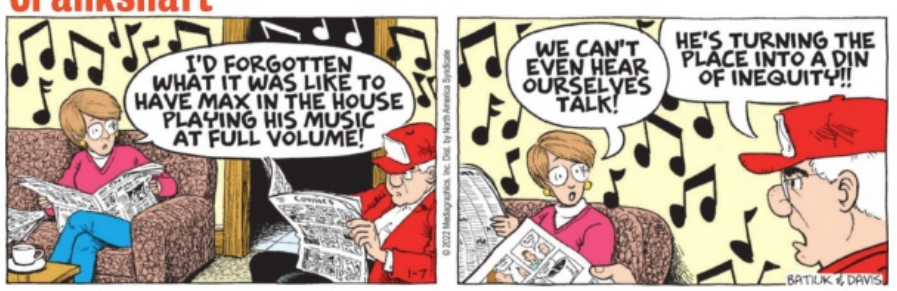
Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


MOM, CAN YOU TAKE SOME PICTURES OF ME? I NEED A NEW HEADSHOT!
SURE!
FIRST, LET'S GET SOME NATURAL LIGHT!
THEN I'LL SET THIS TO PORTRAIT MODE.
YOU'RE SO PREPARED!
SOCIAL MEDIA HAS BEEN AROUND FOR A LONG TIME NOW; I'VE HAD A BIT OF PRACTICE.
@HART OF THE CITY © 2022 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


I'D FORGOTTEN WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO HAVE MAX IN THE HOUSE PLAYING HIS MUSIC AT FULL VOLUME!
WE CAN'T EVEN HEAR OURSELVES TALK!
HE'S TURNING THE PLACE INTO A DIN OF INEQUITY!!
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by the jupiter. This may give you confidence. You may be able to make important decision confidently. You are decisive also, so you may grab the opportunity without a second thought. You may spend money on family and friends. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments. Job aspirants may get a suitable job with the help of friends.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may have dull feeling. You may not enjoy your day. You may be a victim of arrogance. It may affect your professional and domestic life. You may internally feel lack of confidence, which may stop you to do something creative at work.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may feel energetic. You may perform better at work; your hard work may pay you now. This may boost your confidence. Property-related disputes with siblings are likely to be resolved now. Meeting with some influential person may boost your business.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may make you happy. You are likely to get a good opportunity with the help of your communication skills. You are polite with people around you. You may make some difficult decisions in the business, with the help of your colleagues. This may increase your position in the society.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon. It's a good day for you. You have a good energy and may enjoy work. You may enjoy romantic moments with the spouse, which may improve domestic harmony. You are likely to make new plans to start a new project; your perfection may help you to design the flow chart. Job seekers will find a suitable job. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may feel disappointed. You are advised to control your arrogance , otherwise you may face some losses during a conversation. Love birds should be careful in discussions, otherwise, their relation may get affected.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may find mental peace. You may plan to invest some capital in the business, which may increase liquidity into your business. Your earnings may boost your savings. You may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which may enhance harmony in the family life. Singles may find a suitable match. Love birds may decide on their marriage.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon. Your losses may convert into profits. Your boss is likely to be happy and appreciate your work. You may likely to have some transfer in terms of promotion. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control now. Singles and love birds may make important decisions in terms of marriage with the help of relatives or friends.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, situations are under control. You may feel better. You may plan for an overseas trip. Your network may help you in the work front. There might be some improvement in domestic harmony. You may be more creative and may bring some artefacts or creative stuff for family or office. You may also plan to watch movies or be a part of other entertainments with friends or family.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
In the starting of the week, you will expect financial gains. You will make a balance between your earnings and expenses, which will boost your bank balance. You will perform better in your job. Your boss will give you new responsibilities in terms of promotions. You will get back your money from your lenders. You will be able to control over your opponents and hidden enemies.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may plan to renovate yout house. You may buy some stuffs to decorate your house to maintain your social status. Harmony may prevail with the spouse and in domestic life. Disputes with friends, co-workers and partners may settle down. You may get good news in terms of litigations.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon. You may feel healthy; old health issues may resolve now. Your money, which was stuck, may get recovered now. You may also apply for a loan for buying some luxury items.

KIDZONE

Krish Naeen, 7 years, Bengaluru

Bhavya Agarwal, 9 Years, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
Let x = "a number."
140/x = 35/100
35x =140 x 100
35x = 14000
x = 400
Then 75% of 400 = 0.75 x 400 = 300

RIDDLER
First word: Does,
Second word: Doze,
Third word: Does

FAST FIVE

R	E	B	A	R
G	R	A	D	E
I	T	C	H	Y
L	U	A	U	S

QUOTE UNCODE
Everybody likes a kidder, but nobody lends him money.

STRIKE OUT

K	O	R	A	N	■	S	A	R	O	N	G	S	■	■
E	■	A	L	E	P	H	■	A	■	I	■	T	■	■
R	A	B	A	T	■	P	A	G	O	D	A	S	■	■
E	■	C	■	M	■	A	■	A	■	I	■	■	■	■
D	E	N	S	E	L	Y	■	H	A	L	E	D	■	■
■	■	P	■	K	I	N	D	■	A	■	■	■	■	■
S	A	C	H	E	M	■	U	K	A	S	E	S	■	■
N	■	I	■	E	R	A	S	■	R	■	■	■	■	■
E	N	T	E	R	■	E	L	A	P	S	E	S	■	■
T	■	A	■	E	■	G	■	U	■	D	■	■	■	■
I	■	C	■	S	■	A	R	I	E	S	■	U	■	■
M	A	S	T	O	I	D	■	B	L	A	B	S	■	■

QUICK

S	T	O	R	E	D	■	G	A	R	D	A	I	■	■
■	R	■	E	■	I	■	N	■	E	■	L	■	■	■
N	E	W	D	E	L	H	I	■	E	T	A	L	■	■
■	L	■	O	■	U	■	A	■	C	■	A	■	■	■
B	A	D	■	E	V	A	S	I	V	E	■	V	■	■
U	■	E	■	S	■	B	■	P	■	■	■	A	■	■
L	U	R	I	N	G	■	A	M	U	S	E	R	■	■
C	■	E	■	■	E	■	A	■	N	■	■	A	■	■
T	■	D	I	S	T	U	R	B	■	I	N	K	■	■
H	■	N	■	N	■	A	■	O	■	A	■	■	■	■
G	R	U	B	■	U	N	T	I	D	I	L	Y	■	■
I	■	L	■	O	■	T	■	N	■	I	■	■	■	■
F	A	B	R	I	C	■	A	X	I	O	M	S	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
B. The figure is rotating clockwise.

BULL'S EYE
ENGROSS, ergo, gone, goner, gore, gross, nose, ogre, ogress, rose, sensor, snore, song, sore

SUDOKU

5	8	2	9	4	1	7	6	3
9	4	6	5	3	7	1	8	2
7	1	3	6	2	8	9	5	4
4	6	9	2	5	3	8	7	1
2	5	8	7	1	6	3	4	9
3	7	1	4	8	9	6	2	5
8	3	4	1	6	5	2	9	7
1	2	7	8	9	4	5	3	6
6	9	5	3	7	2	4	1	8

ALPHA TRIANGLE
Y, Ya, Lay, Yale, Early, Lawyer, Wearily.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 7 + 8 + 3 = 22
Medium
6 – 5 – 8 + 8 = 1
Hard
2 x 5 + 6 + 1 = 17

LOOP

KAKURO

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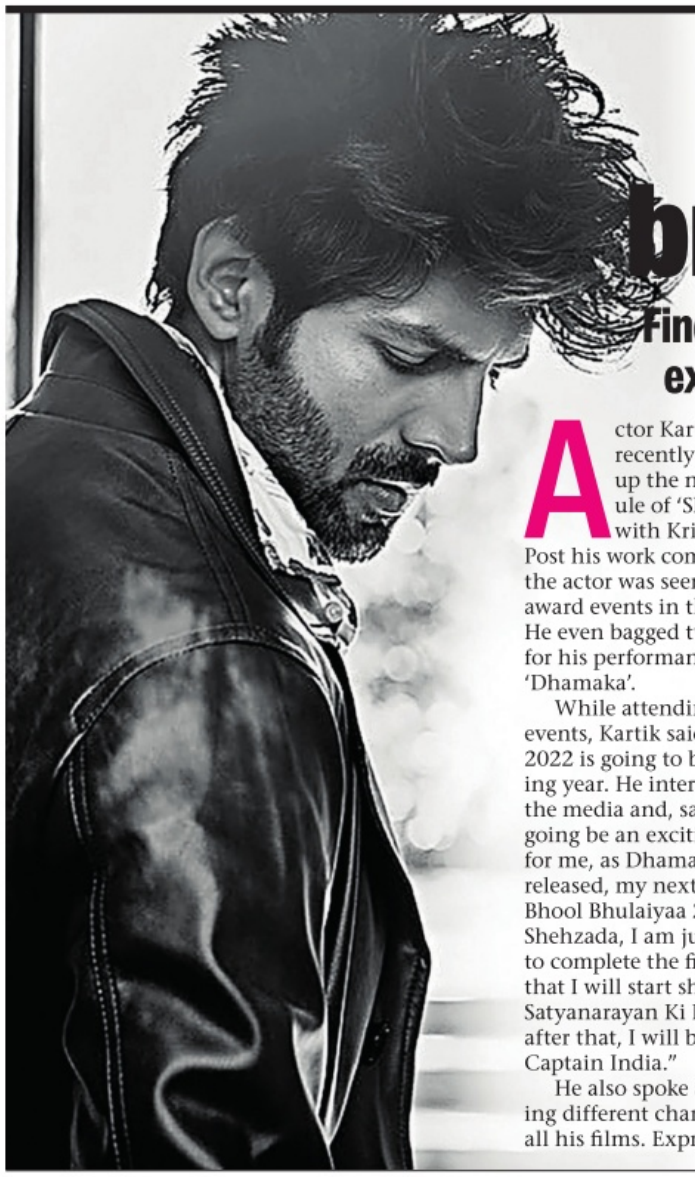
 # SRK teases new OTT venture

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan, on Tuesday, got fans all hyped up by announcing his new venture in the OTT world, the details of which were later revealed by Salman Khan



The cup brimmeth

Find out why this year is so exciting for Kartik Aaryan

Actor Kartik Aaryan recently wrapped up the next schedule of 'Shehzada' with Kriti Sanon. Post his work commitments, the actor was seen attending award events in the city. He even bagged two awards for his performance in 'Dhamaka'.

While attending the events, Kartik said that 2022 is going to be an exciting year. He interacted with the media and, said, "It is going be an exciting year for me, as Dhamaka just released, my next release is Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2, after that Shehzada, I am just about to complete the film, after that I will start shooting for Satyanarayan Ki Katha, and after that, I will be doing Captain India."

He also spoke about playing different characters in all his films. Expressing his excitement, Kartik added, "I am really glad the way this year is going, and films will release back-to-back, so I am excited about each one as I am playing different characters in each one of them and I am excited as there is something new for me with movies and I hope the audience will be entertained".

'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2' is helmed by Anees Bazmee which also stars Kiara Advani and Tabu. 'Shehzada' is a Rohit Dhawan directorial and the Sajid Nadiadwala's musical love saga which was previously titled, 'Satyanarayan Ki Katha', will be helmed by Sameer Vidwans.

Apart from this, Kartik also has Shashanka Ghosh's romantic thriller 'Freddy' with Alaya F and Hansal Mehta's 'Captain India'.

— ETimes

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

Sunny side of life

As Alia Bhatt turns 29, we take a look at some of her best sun-kissed clicks

Proposal turned down

Of the time when Hollywood hunk Gerard Butler had made a marriage proposal to PC

Priyanka Chopra commands millions of followers across the globe. Her co-stars and other actors from both Hollywood and Bollywood have expressed their love and admiration for the actress over the years.

Did you know Hollywood star Gerard Butler had once proposed to Priyanka Chopra for marriage but she rejected it? Yes, you read that right! The superstar had visited India in 2009 and the 'Desi Girl' had organised a party in his honour at her Mumbai home.

A source had told TOI, "Of course, the party was for Gerard who was completely besotted by Priyanka and kept proposing to her every half hour. It's become a standing joke rather a 'kneeling' joke between them. 'Will you marry me?' he knelt and said every half hour while she would burst into laughter. She's clearly not interested in being Mrs Butler."

Later, in 2012, Gerard had told IANS, "Last year, Priyanka was here in the US and I was going out of town to a wedding. I stay in Malibu and she was coming to party at Malibu and I couldn't meet. I was even thinking of missing the plane and going and saying hello because I hadn't seen her in a long time. But we are in touch all the time."

Elaborating further, the actor had concluded by saying, "I am still single because I am waiting for Priyanka Chopra." Priyanka is now happily married to American singer-actor Nick Jonas. The couple recently welcomed their first child via surrogacy. On the work front, Priyanka will be seen in Farhan Akhtar's upcoming film, 'Jee Le Zaraa' where she will be sharing the screen space with Alia Bhatt and Katrina Kaif for the first time.

-ETimes

Ananya part of family circle: Ishaan's mum

Ishaan Khatter and Ananya Panday are often seen hanging out together. They recently attended Shahid Kapoor's birthday party and their pictures went viral on the internet. Though the duo has remained tight-lipped about their alleged romance, but their social media PDA speaks volumes. Recently, Ishaan's mom Neliima Azeem spilled the beans on his bond with Ananya.

In an interview with an entertainment portal, Neliima also revealed what she thinks of Ananya. She said that Ananya has become a part of their inner and family circle.

Neliima told India Today that Ananya is a good friend of Shahid and Mira Rajput, and she is an important part of Ishaan's life. She further also said that Ishaan and Ananya are great buddies and good companions. She also revealed that Ananya fits in very well with Ishaan's friends too.

Ishaan's mom also praised Ananya for her performance in 'Gehraiyaan'. She said that Ananya has always showcased her talent right from her first film. With 'Gehraiyaan', she has come shining through. Neliima Azeem said that she is happy

Ishaan and Ananya are great buddies and good companions says Neliima Azeem, who was also all praise for the petite actor

that everyone is appreciating Ananya's performance in the film.

Earlier, Ishaan and Ananya worked together in 'Khaali Peeli' which was released on an OTT platform.

On the work front, Ishaan will be next seen in 'Phone Bhoot' and 'Pippa'. Ananya has 'Kho Gaye Hum Kahan' in the pipeline.

—ETimes